

Discussion Guide for Living Hope: Part 7

1. Read John 21:1-19 and review the sermon outline.

What parts of Sunday's lesson did you find helpful, enlightening, unclear or troubling?

2. Truth: Forgiveness and restoration are at the heart of Christianity. We are forgiven and restored by God. We honor Him by offering forgiveness and restoration to others.

Read Matthew 6:9-15

-Why do you think Jesus circles back to forgiving others in vs. 14-15?

-What is His point about forgiveness in those verses?

-How have you found that a failure to forgive or harboring bitterness effects your relationship with God?

-Why do you think brother to brother forgiveness is so important to Jesus?

-Is there anyone in your life that you need to offer forgiveness?

Read Matthew 18:15-22

-What is Jesus' point about forgiveness in vs.21-22?

-How is forgiveness connected to the repentance of the offender in vs.15-20?

-How is forgiveness connected to but also distinct from restoration?

-What are some circumstances where forgiveness might be extended but wisdom would not allow for the offender to be restored to their previous position of influence?

-Is there anyone in your life that you need to restore?

Read Galatians 6:1-5

-What are the controlling attitudes for successful restoration and why are they so important?